

TENNESSEE CoCoRaHS

What a Year It's Been!

We started April 1st, 2007, with hopes of being able to supplement precipitation observations across the state. All expectations have been exceeded, surpassed, and *left in a cloud of dust!* Thanks to each of you, the program is vital and healthy, and providing useful and valuable precipitation data to many users in the state and nationally. A very special thanks is also due the [University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture](#) and the [USDA Farm Service Agency](#) for all their help.

In 9 months, there have been 875 volunteers registered to participate in CoCoRaHS with representation in 90 of the 95 counties. Not all registered observers participate, but in December 465 observers (53%) reported in at least once. The daily average was **366.4** reports with a high of **409** on 12/3/07 and the lowest **315** on 12/30/07. There were almost **160** observers that reported every day. December also saw the first significant snow reports in the program.

Along with the phenomenal growth comes a few growing pains. Here are suggestions on how to avoid some of the most common reporting errors.

- **Multi-Day Accumulation Report (MDAR).** If you are doing a MDAR, remember that the dates are the first and last date of the period you are reporting. If the dates overlap a previous report, your precipitation will not automatically record in your station summary.
- **Preset precipitation amount.** The precipitation amount space is preset with 0.00. Don't forget to change this value to the amount of precipitation you are reporting. If not changed, the precipitation value submitted will be 0.00. It's always a good idea to click on View Data and Daily Precipitation Reports to check that your report got into the system. It also shows up immediately on your Monthly Zeros report.
Also, if you are reporting a Trace of precipitation, just enter a "T" for the amount
- **Reporting Period.** The daily reporting period is from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. (or as close to that 24-hour period as possible). An example, the January 4 report is from 7:00 a.m. on January 3 to 7:00 a.m. on January 4. Don't try to make your report match the calendar day that the rainfall occurred. You can also make Daily

Precipitation Reports (DPR) for dates other than the current date by just changing the date on the DPR and enter your observations.

Thanks again for all that each of you are doing to make [CoCoRaHS](#) so valuable. Wouldn't it be great to reach 1,000 observers and representation in all 95 counties by the end of our first year. If you know anyone that might be interested in participating in [CoCoRaHS](#), forward this email to them and tell them about the program.

Your [Tennessee State Coordinators](#);

***Joanne Logan
Ingram***

U. Of Tennessee
Memphis

Craig Carpenter

NWS Morristown

Ralph Troutman

NWS Nashville

Zwemer

NWS